Kelly Air Force Base

Installation Restoration Program

Zone 2 Soils Fact Sheet

December 1998

A fact sheet providing information about proposed remedial action on soil at two sites in Zone 2.

The purpose of this fact sheet is to provide information about the proposed plan for remediation activities associated with the soil in Zone 2. The proposed remediation follows the guidelines set forth by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission's Risk Reduction Standards 2 (TNRCC's RRS2). TNRCC's RRS2 is one of three standards used to evaluate cleanup activities. RRS2 allows for some contaminants to be left behind if the polluted site is in a nonresidential area and the contaminants do not pose a threat.

Background

Zone 2 includes a small portion of the base that extends south of Military Drive. Leon Creek forms the western and southern boundaries of the zone. Zone 2, as defined in the Closure Plan, consists of 16 individual sites. The 16 sites are addressed collectively as Zone 2 due to their close proximity to one another. Plans to clean up contaminated soil were presented to the public in August 1997 and should be finalized by January 1998. This fact sheet addresses remediation processes at two sites in Zone 2: FC-2 and S-9.

Site FC-2

Site FC-2 is a circular area approximately 150 feet in diameter located northwest of the Industrial Waste Sludge Lagoon (Site SA-2) and approximately 100 feet north of Leon Creek. The area was used from the 1950s until 1981 for fire control training exercises. Two to four times each year, waste petroleum, oil and lubricants were used to set fuel fires on a simulated airplane at the center of the site. The fires were extinguished with either a water and protein mixture or film-forming foam. No collection facility or oil and water separator was used to stop direct infiltration of fuel into the ground.

Based on preliminary investigations, the selected remedial actions for Site FC-2 are bioventing and Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE). Bioventing is the injection of air into the ground to provide a source of oxygen for organisms that naturally degrade hydrocarbons. SVE is the process of removing contaminants in the soil by extracting them in their gaseous state. Additional soil samples will be taken to determine if any contaminants are leaching into the groundwater. If contaminants are not leaching into the groundwater, it may be determined that Site FC-2 meets Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission's Risk Reduction Standards 2 closure criteria without further remedial action. The groundwater will be tested to determine the extent of contamination and treated in accordance with investigation findings if it is found that contaminants are leaching into the groundwater.

Site S-9

Site S-9 consists of jet engine test cell buildings 650, 651 and 652, the former aqua-fuels system northeast of Bldg. 652 and the former sludge spreading area west of Bldg. 652. Operations at the jet engine test cell complex began in the early 1950s and continue today. The former aqua-fuel system was used from 1945-1985.

Routine operations within the various buildings at this site were found to have caused the contamination. As part of remediation processes, additional soil borings and samples will be taken to measure the current extent of contamination. If it is determined that contamination meets TNRCC's RRS2 closure criteria, the soils portion of the site will be closed without further remediation. If contamination does not meet TNRCC RRS2 standards, the soils will be properly removed from the site and disposed of at a landfill equipped to manage contaminated soils.